GAIL (India) Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have incorporated a Joint Venture company, namely, M/s Bhagyanagar Gas Limited for implementation of City Gas Projects in Andhra Pradesh. The setting up of CNG network in Hyderabad would depend upon the techno-economic feasibility and tying-up of gas supply for the project.

Co-operation with USA in the hydrocarbon sector

1600. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has signed an agreement with USA for co-operation in the field of hydrocarbon;

(b) if so, the details in this regard including the objectives India has to meet and the benefits it is likely to receive under the agreement;

(c) whether it is also a fact that obligations on the country outweigh the benefits likely to be received; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and the Department of Energy, Government of United States of America signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9.2.2006 for exchange of information relating to hydrocarbon sector. The main objective of the co-operation under the arrangement is to establish for mutual benefit, reasonably balance exchange of hydrocarbon sector information to complement existing hydrocarbon sector statistics.

(c) and (d) The activities under the MoU. will be beneficial to both the countries in learning from each other's expertise in collection and analysis of data pertaining to hydrocarbon sector.

Kerosene quota for Himachal Pradesh

1601. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of kerosene in the country. State-wise;

(b) whether there is a shortage of kerosene in meeting the demand;

(c) whether Government have imported kerosene to meet the demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rates at which it was imported during the last two years;

(e) whether Government propose to increase the quota of kerosene for Himachal Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and by when the quota of kerosene is likely to be increased in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a)Allocation of PDS kerosene is made by the Government of India to States/Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). The details of PDS SKO allocation made to States/UTs during the current year is given in Statement (See below).

(b) to (d) At present, India's domestic consumption of kerosene is more than the domestic production of kerosene. The shortfall in domestic production of kerosene is met through imports by Oil Marketing Companies.

The details of import and price of import of kerosene for the last three years are as under:

	Import (In TMT)	Price of Import (Rs./MT)
2004-05	' 210	20,403
2005-06	1044	25,066
2006-07 (Apr-/Dec, 2006) (Provisional)	1029	30,652

(e) and (f) In view of requests received from various State Governments for increasing the SKO allocation, the Government of India commissioned a detailed study of Kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December, 2004.

NCAER submitted its report in October, 2005. NCAER has *inter alia* recommended to restrict the subsidy on kerosene to BPL families only. The proposal to work out the modalities to implement this decision and for rationalizing the allocation of PDS kerosene among States/UTs is under the consideration of the Government.

Statement

State-wise details of PDS SKO allocation made during the current year

Quantity in Mts

Name of States/UTs	2006-07
A & N Islands	5816
Andhra Pradesh	517158
Arunachal Pradesh	9257
Assam	258007
Bihar	647430
Chandigarh	13067
Chhattisgarh	146938
D&N Haveli	2782
Daman and Diu	2118
Delhi	168484
Goa	19212
Gujarat	743759
Haryana	145619
Himachal Pradesh	50537
Jammu and Kashmir	76044
Jharkhand	211175
Karnataka	461478
Kerala	216308
Lakshadweep	795
Madhya Pradesh	488609
Maharashtra	1276876
Manipur	19907
Meghalaya	20401
Mizoram	6217
Nagaland	13312
Orissa	314977
Pondicherry	12257

Name of States/UTs	2006-07
Punjab	237192
Rajasthan	398913
Sikkim	5582
Tamil Nadu	558929
Tripura	30832
Uttar Pradesh	1241772
Uttaranchal	89849
West Bengal	752103
TOTAL:	9163712

Gas in the Krishna-Godavari offshore

1602. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of reserves of natural gas found so far from the offshore wells in Krishna-Godavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the quantum thereof found to be exploitable;

(c) the carbon content in the available gas in the said region;

(d) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to set up petrochemical complexes in the southern region; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Initial inplace gas reserves established from offshore wells in Krishna-Godavari is about 17.57 trillion cubic feet.

(b) Exploitable reserves is about 12.35 tcf.

(c) The Gas is predominantly Methane, with a carbon (CI) content is deep waters ranging from 88% to 98%.

(d) and (e) Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, a subsidiary of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has proposed to install a grass-root 15 MMTPA Refinery-cum-Petrochemicals complex near Ennore Port.